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ORGANIZATION OF SALT INDUSTRY WORKERS

Initial steps in organization of unions among salt-production workers were taken by the Ministry of Finance in 1940-41, when the salt workers in Szechwan were organized largely on the pattern of postal and telegraph workers.

The salt industry being recognized as essential to national defense, skilled salt workers of military service age have been given deferment from military service.

During the war years, growth of the union organization movement was restricted largely to Szeshwan and a few other salt-producing areas not under enemy occupation. Some difficulties were experienced at first in organization of the Chekiang workers.

After the war, a new advisory commission for organization of salt workers throughout the nation and coordination of the organizations was set up by the Finance and Social Welfare Einistries. Under this set-up, progress was made in homogeneous unification of the salt workers' labor organizations, with the exception of a few areas where special conditions seemed to warrant temporary deviations from the general plan. Some of these areas, were Yunnan, Shensi, Hunan, the Northwest, and Cheklang.

After adoption of the Constitution, the workers seemed to acquire a neightened realization of the importance of organization and in North 1948, it was possible to organize the National Association of Salt Workers Unions of the Republic.

The Union organization set-up is generally as follows:

 Local unions are organized for the local political area in which they are located.

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- °2. All workers in production or transport phases of the salt industry who are over 16 years old and who have nelt-worker's identification cards are eligible for union membership.
- 3. The unions are called Salt Workers Unions plus the name of the local area.
- 4. The unions in any given sunfcipality shall include only workers whose industrial area is located within the political jurisdiction of that municipality.

The following table lists the figures for the numbers of salt workers in various geographical areas in 1947:

Area	Class of Worker		<u>Total</u>	Workers of Military Age		Total.
	<u>Skilled</u>	Others		Skilled	Others	
Northeast	1,760	11	1,771	337	Ð	339
Chang-lu	1,055	1,422	2,477	21	47	68
Shantung	2,248	1,805	4,053	433.	18 0	613
Nuai-psi	7,812	2,818	10,630	762	40	802
Huai-nan					~ ••	
Shang-hai			3,351			
Chekiang	65,876	3,892	69,768	19,248	613	19,861
Fukton	26,422	372	26,794	1,777	27	1,804
Taiwan	6,*12	5	6,314	589	•	589
Kwangtung- Kwangsi	29,663	3,650	33,313	6,436	358	6,794
Szechwan- Sikang	29,357	8,619	37,976	777	141	918
N Szeotvan	36,590	4,958	41,548	1,446	1111	1,557
Yunnan	4,159	2,315	6,474	964	413	1,377
Northwest	1,535	363	1,898	758	215	975
Shene1- Shene1	1,934	112	2,046	328		322
Hunan	350	720	1,070	50	19	39
Hupeh	1,092	860	1,952	285	-	285
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